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| Name (Print/Type) | Muriel Sibert | Fax # (if faxed) | 703-308-2742 |
| Signature | <i>Muriel Sibert</i> | Date | August 20, 2003 |

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/899,767
 Applicants : THOMAS E. MALLOUK et al.
 Filed : July 5, 2001
 TC/AU : 1639
 Examiner : Devon R. Byrd

 Docket No. : 105557
 Customer No. : 23490

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated August 11, 2003, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1-16 in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this response.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this response.

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Request for Reconsideration 09/8/03, 767
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